

**FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Captain Isaac Paine School
160 Foster Center Road
Foster, RI 02825

Tuesday, August 25, 2015
Open Session – 7:15 PM

1. **Convene Meeting** – Chair, Kathleen Swanson, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee to order on Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at 7:15 PM.
 - a. *Roll Call* – all members were present: Chair, Kathleen Swanson, Vice-Chair, Shelley Pezza, member, Ron Cervasio, Superintendent, Dr. Michael Barnes and Secretary, Helena McCullough.
 - b. *Pledge of Allegiance* – was recited by all in attendance.
2. **Public Comment** – no Public Comment.
3. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC **voted to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Foster Teachers Association, & R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(8), Request for Home Schooling Approval**, after the Superintendent's report. Motion carried. Vote = 3-0-0.
4. **Building Use Requests** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC approved the building use request for Swamp Meadow Community Theater to use the cafeteria on October 23, 2015 from 6-9 PM. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC approved the building use request for PTG to use the cafeteria (if raining) and the field for a "Back to School Movie Night" on September 25, 2015 from 5-9 PM. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the building use request for girl scout group #287 to use the cafeteria for the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays from Sept. 2015 to June 2016. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Open and Executive Session Minutes for June 23, 2015. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
6. **Approval of Warrants** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the following Warrants: #1, dated 7/29/2015 for \$135,367.23, Warrant #2 dated 7/30/2015 for \$2,187.05, Warrant #3 dated 8/7/2015 for \$1,577.26 and Warrant #4 dated 8/7/2015 for \$7,414.19. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
 - a. *Business Manager's Report* – Mr. Petrarca provided the FSC with his report and on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC accepted the Business Manager's report. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

7. Old Business (for discussion/action)

- a. Fund Balance Policy – on a motion by Mr. Cervasio and seconded by Ms. Pezza the FSC voted to extend the Fund Balance Policy. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- b. CANVAS Learning Management System Contract – Dr. Barnes informed the FSC of the costs for setting up CANVAS and the possibility of “piggy-backing” the Foster Gloucester Region’s Learning Management System. This will be a Future Agenda Item.
- c. Procurement Policy – 2nd Reading – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC accepted the second reading of the “Procurement Card Policy”. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

8. New Business (for discussion/action)

- a. Capital Improvements – Front Entrance & Bathrooms – Dr. Barnes and the FSC discussed an internal vestibule and an external vestibule and the cost difference. Dr. Barnes will touch base with all parties, ie., building committee and the Chief of Police.
- b. Personnel – Appointment – Reading Specialist & One-Year Teacher – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC approved the Superintendent’s recommendation to appoint Mrs. Lorin Devereauz to a one year position at the third grade level at Step two (2) with benefits and salary per the present FTA contract. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
Reading Specialist was put on hold.
- c. Kindergarten Registration – Enrollment Update 2015-2016 – at the time of this meeting there were 39 Kindergarten students.
- d. Building & Grounds
 - 1) Repairs – Condition of Outbuilding – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the removal of the outbuilding by the DPW. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- e. Town Library – Mr. Cervasio relayed to the FSC the idea of a New library being established with the elementary school.

9. Communication/Reports

- a. Communication – Mrs. Swanson had received an inquiry concerning lunch-time when school begins.
- b. Principal’s Report – Mrs. Danusis spoke to her back to school letter. She also informed the FSC of a \$1000 grant awarded through the Rotary Club for books and e-books and a \$2200 grant through RI State Council for an afterschool theater program.
- c. Superintendent’s Report

10. Future Agenda Items –

- a. Fund Balance Policy
- b. CANVAS

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC reconvened Open Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Mrs. Swanson reported that Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Foster Teachers’ Association was discussed and a vote approving a Home Schooling request.

On a motion by Mr. Cervasio and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to “Seal” the minutes from Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

11. Adjournment – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC voted to adjourn at 9:22 PM. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee